

SMOKE SIGNALS

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"HELLO" CAMPAIGN  
PROVIDES RALLYING POINT TO PROMOTE  
AMATEUR RADIO

HELLO Ham Radio Public Relations  
Campaign Resources Available on ARRL  
Web Site

The first components of the ARRL's  
"Hello" Amateur Radio public relations  
campaign now are available. "This cam-  
paign will give hams the tools they need to  
reach out in their communities to non-  
hams and influence their perception of  
Amateur Radio," says ARRL Media and  
Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts,  
WIAGP, who conceived the campaign and  
is its principal Headquarters contact. The  
"Hello" campaign is aimed at recasting  
Amateur Radio in the light of the 21st cen-  
tury and focusing on its universal appeal.  
At the same time, it will mark the 100th  
anniversary of what many historians con-  
sider the first voice radio broadcast in

1906 by Reginald Fessenden.

"For years, ARRL public information  
officers (PIOs) and others interested in  
promoting Amateur Radio have been look-  
ing for leadership and a rallying point  
from which we can join together in a ma-  
jor promotion for ham radio," Pitts said.  
This is it! Tools include a distinctive  
"Hello" Web site <[http://www.hello-  
radio.org/](http://www.hello-radio.org/)> and radio and TV public ser-  
vice announcements.

Based on the word "Hello," which  
Pitts calls "possibly the most pleasant  
word in any language," the coordinated  
campaign will set "a positive, upbeat tone  
that highlights the international capabili-  
ties of Amateur Radio," he explained. The

(Continued on page 11)

ELMER

by Rich Regent, K9GDF



Check us out on the web at  
<http://www.bsss.org>

ARRL Central Division Director  
Appeals for Your Help  
in an Important Matter!!

15 March 2006

On March 4th, I published a division-  
wide email message about my current  
newsletter now posted on my web site at:  
[www.central.arrl.org](http://www.central.arrl.org)

In the intervening 11 days, I have  
received messages from only 36 ARRL  
Central Division members telling me they  
have sent letters to their respective U.S.  
House Representatives asking them to  
support House Resolution 230. There may  
have been some confirmation messages  
that I did not receive. But assuming a very  
high 33 percent error rate, the total would  
only be 48 letters. This is extremely disap-  
pointing!

I was expecting an early response of

perhaps 250 letters with an eventual total  
of more than 500 after three or four weeks.

Over the 5 plus years I have been  
your director, the greatest number of com-  
plaints from you I have received involve  
the FCC in one form or another. I have  
tried to explain to you the FCC actions  
relating to amateur radio that have taken  
place or are still in process - one of them  
(Novice re-farming) for over 4 years.

Perhaps my explanations have been  
inadequate, confusing, or most of you just  
don't care about these issues. Folks, our  
greatest danger is our aggregate apathy on  
regulatory issues. Yes, there are a few of  
you who do follow these issues and then  
send email messages to me and sometimes

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Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901 — [kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net](mailto:kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net)

### Swapfests And Other Social Events

March 31-April 1, 2006. AES SUPER-FEST 2006, Amateur Electronic Supply, 5710 West Good Hope Road, Milwaukee, WI. **Talk-In:** 145.130/144.530 (PL 127.3) **Contact:** Ray Grenier, K9KHW, 5710 West Good Hope Road Milwaukee, WI 53223. Phone: 414-375-1162, Fax: 411-358-3337, Email: [rayk9khw@aol.com](mailto:rayk9khw@aol.com).

April 22, 2006, Madison Area Repeater Association Swapfest, Stoughton, WI. Mandt Community Center 400 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, WI. Inquiries can be directed to: [w9hsy@execpc.com](mailto:w9hsy@execpc.com) or write to MARA, PO Box 8890, Madison, WI 53708-8890, Tele:608.245.8890 For more information see the MARA website [www.qsl.net/mara](http://www.qsl.net/mara).

April 29, 2006, Medford, WI. Central Wisconsin Swapfest sponsored by the Black River ARA, Medford, WI. Unity Memorial Hall, 202 W Clark St. (County Hwy. K.), Unity, Wisconsin. For more information contact: Bob Braun, KB9BLV, PO Box 331, Dorchester, WI 54425 or e-mail to: [hamfest@charter.net](mailto:hamfest@charter.net) <http://webpages.charter.net/centralwis/>

[hamfest.html](#)

April 29, 2006 9:00 AM – Noon. CCRAA SWAP & SHOP. CHASSELL VFW HALL MID-TOWN CHASSELL, MI. Set-up Friday nite at 6 PM if Needed. ENTRANCE FEE \$3.00. 1/2 Table \$3.00. Full Table \$5.00. Ladies VFW sales of Hot Dogs, Bakery, Coffee. 73, Glenn Ekdahl, WA8QNF. Home 482-7743; Cell 369-2461

May 06, 2006, Cedarburg, WI. 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Amateur Radio and Computer Swapfest, Ozaukee Radio Club (ORC). Circle B Recreation Center, intersection of State Highway 60 and Ozaukee County Highway I. Info: Gene Szudrowitz, (262) 377-6792 between 6:00 and 8:00 pm or <http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org/>

May, 6 2006, Duluth, MN, Head of the Lakes Fairgrounds, 4700 South Tower Avenue (WI Hwy 35, next to Superior Airport), Superior, WI Arrowhead RAC. <http://webpages.charter.net/arac> Talk-In: 146.94/34 (PL 103.5) (W0GKP) Contact: Robert Schulz, KC0NFB, 115 Eden Lane, Duluth, MN 55805-1533, Phone: 218-784-6957, Email: [arac\\_hamfest@charter.net](mailto:arac_hamfest@charter.net)

May, 19-21 2006, Trotwood, OH Hara Arena, 1001 Shiloh Springs Road, ARRL EXPO info: [www.arrl.org/expo](http://www.arrl.org/expo) Dayton Hamvention / ARRL EXPO 2006. Dayton ARA. <http://www.hamvention.org/> Talk-In: 146.94 (PL 123), Contact: Jim Nies, WX8F, PO Box

964, Dayton, OH 45401-0964, Phone: 937-276-6930, Fax: 937-276-6934, Email: [info@hamvention.org](mailto:info@hamvention.org)

June 3-4, 2006, Illinois State Convention/ Princeton Hamfest, Princeton, IL Bureau County Fairgrounds, West Peru Street (Route 6), Princeton, IL. Starved Rock Radio Club, <http://www.qsl.net/w9mks/>, **Talk-In:** 146.955 - 600 (PL 103.5). **Contact:** Kurt Clausen, KB9RKU, PO Box 198, Leonore, IL 61332, Phone: 815-539-6477, Email: [w9mkshamfest@yahoo.com](mailto:w9mkshamfest@yahoo.com)

July 8, 2006, South Milwaukee ARC Swapfest, American Legion Post 434, 9327 South Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI. e-mail [ryatex@aol.com](mailto:ryatex@aol.com). Phone (414) 762-3235.

August 5, 2006, Quincy, IL Eagles' Alps, 3737 North 5th Street Western Illinois ARC. <http://www.w9awe.org> Talk-In: 147.030 + 600 (PL 103.5). Contact: Michael Nowack, NA9Q, 2011 North Sheridan Drive, Quincy, IL 62305, Phone: 217-224-8526. Email: [mnowack@adams.net](mailto:mnowack@adams.net)

August 12, 2006 Circus City Swapfest, Sauk County Fairgrounds, Baraboo, WI. Contact: Steve Schultze, W9UDO, (608) 356-2313 or Bill Klinkner, N9KXX, (608) 643-6908/643-6453 [www.yellowthunder.org](http://www.yellowthunder.org)

August 26-27, 2006. Radio Expo 2006. Chicago FM Club, Lake County Fairgrounds,

Rte's 45 & 120, Grayslake, IL. **Talk-In:** 146.760 (PL 107.2) **Contact:** Mike Brost, WA9FTS, 5127 North Monterey Avenue, Norridge, IL 60706, Phone: 708-457-0966, Fax: 708-457-0966, Email: [mbrost@cin.net](mailto:mbrost@cin.net),

September 10, 2006, Swapfest, sponsored by SEWFARS at Richfiled Chalet, 1271 Hwy 175, Hubertus, WI. e-mail to [sewfars@hotmail.com](mailto:sewfars@hotmail.com) or call: 1-866-837-0240 (toll free) or 262-628-7791. SEWFARS Swapfest, PO Box 105, Eagle, WI 53119.

September 15-16 2006, W9DXCC Convention, Northern Illinois DX Association. Holiday Inn, 1000 Busse Road, Elk Grove Village, IL **Talk-In:** 147.36. **Contact:** Bill Smith, W9VA, 1345 Linden Avenue, Deerfield, IL 60015, Phone: 847-945-1564, Fax: 847-945-6554, Email: [w9va@aol.com](mailto:w9va@aol.com) or <http://www.w9dxcc.com>

September 16-17, 2006. Peoria Superfest, Exposition Gardens Fairgrounds, 1601 W Northmoor Rd, off N. University, Peoria, IL. Contact: Peoria Superfest, PO Box 3508 Peoria, IL 61612-3508. (309) 692-2378. e-mail: [w9uvi@arrl.net](mailto:w9uvi@arrl.net). <http://www.peoriasuperfest.com>.

October, 8 2006, Crown Point, IN, Lake County Fairgrounds, 889 South Court Street. Lake County ARC <http://www.qsl.net/w9lj/> Talk-In: 147.600 MHz input/147.000 MHz output (PL 131.8); 146.52 simplex. Contact: Rich Gilles, KA9SVS, 156 South Ridge Street, Crown Point, IN 46307-4179, Phone: 219-662-0594, Email: [paris156@yahoo.com](mailto:paris156@yahoo.com)

November 5, 2006, Fox Cities Radio Club 2006, Swapfest. N8870 Fire Lane 1, Menasha. Waverly Beach at the North tip of Lake Winnebago. For information contact: [N9RJZ@tponet.com](mailto:N9RJZ@tponet.com), (920) 729-0797 or W9ZL Swapmeet, 163 Main Street, Menasha, WI 54952.

November 18-19, 2006, Indiana State Convention (Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo) Fort Wayne, IN. Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Avenue. Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society <http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>Talk-In: 146.88 (-) Contact: James D. Boyer, KB9IH, 3031 Wilderness Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46845. Phone: 260-489-6700. Email: [kb9ih@arrl.net](mailto:kb9ih@arrl.net)

Further information about hamfests in the area can be found at [bsss.org](http://bsss.org) or at <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html> If your organization is sponsoring a Hamfest/Swapfest and would like us to list your event, please send the information to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN at the address below or to [k9en@arrl.net](mailto:k9en@arrl.net)

## Badger State Smoke Signals

### *Amateur Radio Education and Information*

**CHAIRMAN/PUBLISHER:** Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560. e-mail to: [kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net](mailto:kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net)

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**TREASURER:** Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901.

**EDITORIAL BOARD:** Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Don Evenson, K9JYX.

### Subscription Rate

1 year (6 issues—bi-monthly)\$13.95

A subscription form is in this issue. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

### When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month before the issue date. For example, the closing date for the May issue is April 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

### Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

Web page material should be sent to [n9qa@arrl.net](mailto:n9qa@arrl.net) (Dave Knaus, N9QA).

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

**Swapfest ADS should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN no later than eight weeks before the**

#### events date.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

#### Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

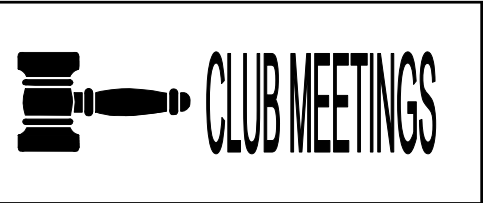
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### Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.



Adams, WI  
Adams City Fire Dept., 101 N. Main St., Highway 13, Adams, WI. Contact Edward J. Wagner (608) 584-4858. [ab9fn@arrl.net](mailto:ab9fn@arrl.net)

Appleton, WI  
Fox Cities ARC (ARRL/VEC) All regular test sessions are held at the American Red Cross Building, 1302 East Wisconsin Ave. in Appleton. Testing starting at 8 a.m. No walk-ins after 9 a.m. For information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. Email: [w9mdp@arrl.net](mailto:w9mdp@arrl.net).

Eau Claire, WI  
Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club. Grace Lutheran Church, 202 W., Grand Ave. Enter off 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue entrance, Eau Claire, WI  
Technician, General and Extra Class exams. Walkins welcome. Examination session coordinator: Jonathan E., Case, (715) 834-1540. [www.ecarc.org](http://www.ecarc.org). [w9eau@ecarc.org](mailto:w9eau@ecarc.org).

Fond du Lac, WI  
Fond du Lac ARC (ARRL/VEC). Community United Methodist Church, 701 Minnesota Ave., North Fond du Lac. 9:00 a.m. Walk-ins allowed. Contact: Douglas J. Schultz, 920-922-3088, [schultz74@charter.net](mailto:schultz74@charter.net).

Houghton MI: Sponsor: HARC/CCRAA. Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: George R Thurner home phone, (906)337-2542, cell phone (906) 369-2542 Email: [W8FWG@ARRL.NET](mailto:W8FWG@ARRL.NET) VEC: [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC) Location: Michigan Tech University-US Hwy 41. Wadsworth Residence Hall, East End of Campus, G04w (Downstairs/Turn Left), Houghton, MI 49931

Iron Mountain, MI 49801: Sponsor: W5YI VEC. Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-Ins Allowed). Contact: Mark J Lewis, (906)337-2542 . VEC: [W5YI VEC](http://W5YI VEC). Location: Dickinson County Library, 401 South Iron Mountain St., Arrival Time: 9:00 AM. Conference Room, Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Iron River, MI. Sponsor: Iron Range ARA (IRARC). Time: 6:30 PM (No walk-ins). Contact: Dan R Waters, (906)265-4240. Email: [dmwaters@ironriver.tv](mailto:dmwaters@ironriver.tv) VEC: [W5YI VEC](http://W5YI VEC). Location: Iron River Lutheran Church, Across From Mcdonald's. Pre-Registration Required. If no applicants - No testing. Iron River, MI 49935

Madison, WI  
The Madison Wisconsin, Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club sponsored VE testing has moved to the new University of Wisconsin Space Place, 2300 South Park Street, lower level, Madison, WI in the Villager shopping center complex. Exams are given the first Saturday of the month. Holidays included. Doors open at 8:00 AM, and we hope to have all exams completed and graded by 10:00 AM.  
Please bring a picture ID, your original

license, a copy of your license, and the original and a copy of any relevant CSCEs, and a check for \$12.00 made out to the ARRL/VEC. No appointments are necessary to take exams. Exams start promptly at 8 a.m. Questions may be directed to Tim Czerwotka, WO9U, at 608-239-3696 (home phone) or sent to [wo9u@arrl.net](mailto:wo9u@arrl.net).

Marshfield, WI  
Sponsored by the Marshfield Area ARS. Saint Joseph's Hospital, 611 Saint Joseph Ave., Room 124, Hospice South Bldg., Marshfield, WI 54449. Contact Lee A. Olson, (715) 389-8888.

Mauston, WI (ARRL/VEC)  
Sponsored by the Juneau County ARC. 9:30 a.m. (Walk-ins allowed). Mauston City Hall, 303 Mansion St., Community Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Mauston, WI. Contact Edward J. Wagner, (608) 584-4858. [ab9fn@arrl.net](mailto:ab9fn@arrl.net)

Menominee, MI  
Marinette-Menominee Amateur Radio Club. Location: The cafeteria of Bay Area Med Center, US-41 in Menominee. Building located next to KFC just off the Interstate Bridge. All classes given. Advance notice preferred, but not required. Test fee is \$10 with two pieces of identification required. Contact Jeff Rymer, N9PQU at [jrymer@ez-net.com](mailto:jrymer@ez-net.com) or Ed Engleman, KG8CX, at [dxer@cybrzn.com](mailto:dxer@cybrzn.com). We will monitor the 147.000 (107.2 pl) repeater in event further directions or info is needed.

Milwaukee, WI  
Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club (MRAC VEC) Last Saturday, except in March, June, August, and December. In addition, we test at the West Allis RAC Swapfest in January and at Superfest in April. 9:30 a.m. to noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Road (the door you enter is actually numbered 5730), Milwaukee. For additional information, call (262) 797-MRAC. Bring along your original license, CSCE (if any), and one (1) good quality photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$8.00 for the exam fee. Walkins are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card. Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number, and send the card to MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, P.O. Box 070695, Milwaukee, WI 53207. Contact: John G. Kraak, 262-797-6722.

Negaunee, MI. Sponsor: HIAWATHA ARC. Time: 8:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Richard E Schwenke, (906)249-3837, Email: [n8gba@chartermi.net](mailto:n8gba@chartermi.net) VEC: [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC). Location: Health Dept Bldg (Downstairs), 184 US 41 E, Entrance @ Back of building. Negaunee, MI 49866

Onalaska, WI  
Sponsor: Riverland ARC, Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed), Contact: Roger C. Reader, (608)783-0723. Email: [readers@centurytel.net](mailto:readers@centurytel.net). VEC: [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC). Location: Onalaska Public Library. 741 Oak Ave S. Onalaska, WI 54650

Oshkosh, WI (Omro)  
Oshkosh VE Team Amateur Radio exams monthly on the second Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given

from 9 a.m. until noon. Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walkins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.65. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail: [lemme@vbe.com](mailto:lemme@vbe.com), or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

Ozaukee, WI  
Sponsor: Ozaukee Radio Club. Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed), Contact: John G. Kraak. (414)332-6722. Email: [jkraak@wi.rr.com](mailto:jkraak@wi.rr.com). VEC: [Milwaukee VEC](http://Milwaukee VEC). Location: Circle B Recreation Center, 6261 State Road 60, Cedarburg, WI 53012

Portage, WI  
Columbia County Law Enforcement Center, 711 E. Cook St., Highway 33, Portage, WI. Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed), Contact: Edward J. Wagner, (608)584-4858 Talk in on 146.52.  
Email: [ab9fn@arrl.net](mailto:ab9fn@arrl.net). VEC: [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC). Location: Columbia County Law Enforcement Center, 711 E Cook St, Highway 33, Portage, WI 53901 Talk-in Frequency 146.520 MHz.

Racine, WI  
ARRL VEC Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August. Monthly exams are given 9 to 11 a.m. at the Faith United Methodist Church, 1013 Harmony Drive, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Talk in on 147.87/.27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Paul B. Smedegaard, N9RGW, 929 Lathrop Ave., Racine, WI 53405-2339. Telephone: (262) 637 4750. or e-mail to [smedegaa@wi.net](mailto:smedegaa@wi.net)

Rockford, IL  
Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC) Third Saturday of every month. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walkins welcome. Held at St. Anthony Hospital, 5660 E State St., Rockford, IL. Contact: Randy Scott, W9HL, [W9HL@ARRL.NET](mailto:W9HL@ARRL.NET) (815-877-4328).

Sheboygan, WI  
Sheboygan County ARC (ARRL/VEC). Exams are held in the Red Cross Building, 2032 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan, WI. The test areas are handicap accessible with signage posted to direct candidates to the proper area of the building. Walk-ins are accepted, however notification ahead of time of your intention to appear would be appreciated. Contact: Art Pahr K9XJ, 920-876-2370. N8029 Willow Road [k9xj@arrl.net](mailto:k9xj@arrl.net) Plymouth, WI 53073-2929

Tomahawk, WI  
Tomahawk ARRL VE Team (ARRL/VEC). Last Saturday of every month, January thru October. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testing starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633, [dcollins@newnorth.net](mailto:dcollins@newnorth.net).

St. Paul, MN  
Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC) First Saturday of the month, 8:30 a.m. Test Site: St. Paul Technical College, 235 Marshall Ave., St Paul, MN. Ed Van Cleave, W0VC, (612) 636-0108. [www.qsl.net/sprc/index.html](http://www.qsl.net/sprc/index.html).

Washington Island, WI  
Contact: John W. Van Sandt, (217) 826-8821. [n9yrx@hotmail.com](mailto:n9yrx@hotmail.com)

Wausau, WI.  
Sponsor: WVRA. Time: 2:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Gerald L. Graebel, (715) 842-9542 Email: [w9glg@arrl.net](mailto:w9glg@arrl.net). VEC: [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC). Location: American Legion Golf Course, 1001 Golf Club Rd, Wausau, WI 54403

The above listings of club meetings, dates and locations have been provided to us from many different sources. We want to keep this listing as current as possible. We would appreciate it if your club would review their listing and let us know if it is correct, and if not, what changes need to be made.  
If your club is not listed and would like to be listed let BSSS know. You can contact us at the address on page 2 or by e-mail to [smoke.signals@verizon.net](mailto:smoke.signals@verizon.net) or to [k9en@arrl.net](mailto:k9en@arrl.net)

## The Test Point



### Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Area

April 01, 2006	Racine, WI
April 01, 2006	St. Paul, MN
April 08, 2006	Blaine, MN
April 08, 2006	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
April 13, 2006	Apple Valley, MN
April 15, 2006	Rockford, IL
April 15, 2006	Cottage Grove, MN
April 18, 2006	Eden Prairie, MN
April 20, 2006	Iron River, MI
April 22, 2006	Bloomington, MN
April 29, 2006	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
April 29, 2006	Tomahawk, WI
May 06, 2006	Racine, WI
May 06, 2006	St. Paul, MN
May 11, 2006	Apple Valley, MN
May 13, 2006	Blaine, MN
May 13, 2006	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
May 16, 2006	Eden Prairie, MN
May 18, 2006	Iron River, MI
May 20, 2006	Rockford, IL
May 20, 2006	Cottage Grove, MN
May 27, 2006	Bloomington, MN
May 27, 2006	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
May 27, 2006	Tomahawk, WI
June 03, 2006	Racine, WI
June 03, 2006	St. Paul, MN
June 08, 2006	Apple Valley, MN
June 10, 2006	Blaine, MN
June 10, 2006	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
June 15, 2006	Iron River, MI
June 17, 2006	Cottage Grove, MN
June 17, 2006	Rockford, IL
June 20, 2006	Eden Prairie, MN
June 24, 2006	Bloomington, MN



# Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Dean R. Herriges, KB9ROB, Secretary  
W370 S9590 Highway 67 • Eagle, WI 53119

## WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	LOCAL	Manager
BWN	YES	3985	1100	0600	W9IXG
BEN	YES	3985	1700	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	YES	3985	2215	1715	K9FHI
WNN	YES	3723	2300	1800	KB9ROB
WSSN	YES	3645	2330	1830	N9JIY
WIN/E	YES	3662	0000	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	YES	3662	0300	2200	W9UW
RCRA	NO	01/61	0030	1930	KA9OMC
	(Mondays CDT— Menomonie Area)				
Green Bay Area	NO	72/12	0245	2145	WB9NRK
ARES	NO	4.65/5.25	0200	2100	
	(South East/South Central Wisconsin)				
ARES/RACES (WRACES)	NO	3997.5	2300	1800	N9VAO
	(Sundays)				

### STM REPORT JANUARY 2006

FAQ # 52 How is a cat like a comma? Okay, maybe that’s not a frequently asked question – but the answer brings to mind an important concept in sending traffic. The answer? Old story. A cat has claws at the end of its paws, but a comma’s a pause at the end of a clause.

Pauses are critical in sending traffic – in any mode. There are pauses between words, pauses between parts of the preamble, pauses after each line of an address. Pauses may also be used to listen for

interruptions while sending a message. Use of break-in keying on CW (QSK) or VOX on phone makes it easy for the receiving station to ask for clarification.

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Remember, if you speak only as fast as you can write (try it), the copying station can keep up. Pauses are more than refreshing. They really help in traffic handling. 73 – K9LGU/ STM-WI

### STM REPORT FEBRUARY 2006

FAQ # 53 How do I become an Official Relay Station? There are some easy steps to gaining this appointment – with all of its rank, privilege, and fame. (1) Be an ARRL member and have a license of novice class or above. Be active in traffic handling. That doesn’t mean you have to handle a lot of traffic each month. Just know how to do it correctly and be willing to do it when the occasion arises. Check in to a few nets to offer your services as an outlet for traffic to your community. (2) Follow standard ARRL operating practices (message form, ending signals, abbreviations or prowords, etc.). (3) Transmissions, by whatever mode, must be of the

highest quality, both technically and operationally. For example, cw signals must be pure, chirpless, clickless, code. Sending must be well spaced and properly formed. Voice transmission must be of proper modulation percentage or deviation, precisely enunciated with minimum distortion. (4) Handle all record communications speedily and reliably and set the example in efficient operating procedures. All traffic is relayed or delivered promptly after receipt. (5) Report your activity to the STM each month. It’s easy, and you’ll be in great company. The certificate looks very nice, and represents an important service element of our hobby. Interested? Contact W9IXG or me and we’ll get the application going. 73 – K9LGU/STM-WI

Check us out on the web at  
<http://www.bssts.org>

### WISCONSIN SECTION STATION ACTIVITY MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY JANUARY 2006

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1796	2535	4712	31	W9IXG
BEN	577	46	1020	31	KE9VU
WSBN	842	100	1235	31	K9FHI
WNN	241	21	396	30	KB9ROB
WSSN	201	17	316	29	N9JIY
WIN/E	198	44	283	31	WB9ICH
WIN/L	123	32	288	31	W9UW
WRACES	138	1	253	5	N9VAO
totals	4116	2796	8503	219	

#### FEBRUARY 2006

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1807	2377	4430	28	W9IXG
BEN	553	46	920	28	KE9VU
WSBN	705	147	1174	28	K9FHI
WNN	171	12	293	22	KB9ROB
WSSN	154	20	270	28	N9JIY
WIN/E	134	30	214	24	WB9ICH
WIN/L	128	46	280	28	W9UW
WRACES	107	0	212	4	N9VAO
TOTALS	3759	2678	7793	190	

### STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY JANUARY 2006

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
KA9EKG	20	602	580	10	1212 –BPL
KB9KEG	42	278	42	278	640 – BPL
K9LGU	0	78	65	2	145
K9FHI	0	40	47	0	87
AG9G	0	9	51	0	60
W9KKM	0	4	41	4	49
W9UW	0	28	18	1	47
KE9VU	0	26	17	0	43
W9BHL	0	6	36	0	42
KN9P	0	20	20	0	40
K9JPS	0	2	32	2	36
KG9B	0	9	17	0	26
KB9ROB	0	20	4	2	26
K9GU	0	0	25	0	25
W9RSX	0	4	19	1	24
WB9ICH	0	13	3	2	18
WD9FLJ	2	1	2	1	6
W9PVD	0	1	1	1	3

#### FEBRUARY 2006

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
KA9EKG	40	607	587	23	1257
KB9KEG	31	217	36	222	506
K9LGU	0	67	49	4	120
AG9G	0	16	57	0	73
W9RTP	7	30	29	1	67
W9UW	0	33	25	0	58
W9UW	0	33	25	0	58
W9BHL	0	7	37	2	46
KG9B	0	20	26	0	46
W9KKM	0	4	34	4	42
KN9P	0	20	20	0	40
K9FHI	0	8	25	0	33
WD9FLJ	6	8	9	7	30
KE9VU	0	24	5	1	30
K9JPS	0	1	28	1	30
K9GU	0	0	29	0	29
WB9ICH	0	25	3	1	29
WZ9I	8	8	6	6	28
W9RSX	0	3	22	1	26

(Continued on page 6)

# The Computer Corner

by Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR  
715 N. Dries Street  
Saukville, WI 53080-1664  
(262) 268-1949  
skaplan@mcw.edu



### No. 129. Another New One

Well, I did it again. Just before moving to my new QTH in August 2005, my main machine burned out. All the peripherals were OK, including the new power supply I had installed. But that particular motherboard did not have an auxiliary 12-volt power connection (even though the power supply did have that cable). With the high current draw of newer boards, the standard 20-pin main power connector was overloaded and it burned out a pin on the motherboard. Melted connectors on motherboards are fairly common these days, as higher and higher current draws evolve. Oh well, that motherboard did give me several years of good service.

So, the question became whether to buy or build. Computers are really inexpensive now, and it would have been easy to buy a box all ready to go. But I had other computers that could take up the slack of the dead one, so time was not crucial. Besides, building one can be fun. Also, the case, power supply, CD-ROM, hard and floppy drives were all just fine and did not need replacing. That gave me a chance to do a nice upgrade at a reasonable price. So I started, first considering what I wanted in a motherboard.

The speed of the CPU (in MHz) is no longer the most important characteristic of a computer. Sure, a speedy CPU is great, but more important is the capability of the motherboard to transfer information from the CPU to the memory (through a memory controller chip). This high-speed transfer of information from the CPU goes over a bunch of wires called a bus. Specifically, this is called the Processor Bus, or more commonly, the Front Side Bus

(FSB). The speed of the FSB is the most important characteristic of a motherboard. Currently, the fastest FSB available is 800 MHz. That is what I wanted. I picked up a motherboard with an 800 MHz FS bus on Ebay for just over \$50 (see the list below). I also made sure it had the extra ATX 12 volt power connector that was missing on my burned out model. The motherboard had several other nice features, such as hyper-threading (like dual processors), on-board video, audio, LAN (local area network) and more.

Although the motherboard supported up to a 3.4 GHz processor (CPU), I opted for a 3.2 GHz Intel P4 (codename Northwood) that seemed the best bang for the buck at the time. This seventh generation CPU sports a hefty L1 and L2 cache right on the die of the processor, over 55 million transistors (!), and lots of other improvements over the P3 CPU. This was clearly the most expensive purchase in my upgrade.

This processor uses a lot of power, over 80 watts! Think of an 80-watt light bulb in a package about 2 inches square by ¼ inch thick! Hot! One must have a cooling fan rated to efficiently move the heat away from the package. If not, the 69°C (156°F) maximum temperature of the CPU will be exceeded, and over \$200 worth of smoke will be let out! So I purchased a copper-based CPU cooler rated for P4 processors up to 3.4 GHz.

We hams know that maximum power is transferred between two circuits when the impedances of the two circuits are matched. The same is true in computers. If you have a high speed CPU and a high speed bus, the memory sticks you install had better be able to match the speed of the bus or

you will take a marked performance hit. The bus is actually a 200 MHz quad-pumped bus that transfers data four times per cycle, for an 800 MHz effective rate. Since it is a 64-bit (8 byte) bus, the throughput rate is 6400 MBps (millions of bits per second, or megabits per second). I chose two 512 MB Double Data Rate (DDR) 400 sticks as an exact match for the motherboard and CPU. A megabyte of memory on board, and, the “impedances” are equal.

ITEM	SOURCE	COST
PM800-M2 motherboard	Ebay	51.90
3.2 GHz P4 Northwood CPU	Ebay	239.99
Ultra P4 CPU cooling fan	Tiger Direct	26.98
(2) 512 MB DDR PC3200 DIMMs	Crucial	143.16
TOTAL		462.03

I probably could have gotten the CPU and memory a little cheaper by shopping around a bit more, but time was of the essence during part of this process owing to my QTH move, so I chose to go when I found these items. How does it work? Fine, and it is fast! Happy computing!

So, what did it cost? Here is the lineup, all purchased between August and October 2005:

## WISCONSIN SECTION MANAGER REPORT

### JANUARY 2006

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG, SEC: KB9ENO, STM: K9LGU, SGL: AD9X, OOC: N9VE, PIC: KB9NUM, TC: K9GDF, BM: WB9NRK, ACC: N9LVS ASM: K9UTQ, W9DGI, N9VE.

With regret, I am informing you of the passing of these Amateurs:

- Jack Pierce, N9HIP, 74.
- John Deisinger, W9KSP, 81.
- Mark Schultz, KE9C, 52.

Mark was a charter member of the Watertown ARC.

Following up on the popularity of Straight Key Night on January 1, Tom, KC9ECI, has started a Straight Key Century Club where folks get together on the 1st of each month. Members of the club are issued a SKCC number. He appears to have hit a winner with over 1000 joining the club from around the world! If interested, go to this site to learn more and register: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/skcc/>

A reminder that if any club officer wishes to know of new Amateurs in Wisconsin, I produce a listing of them every month. If you are an officer and wish to receive a monthly copy, let me know and I will add you. Good opportunity to invite those new Amateurs near you to attend the club meetings!

ECARC recently honored six of their members with over 300 years of Ham Radio experience. W0AIH Paul Bittner, W9FWQ Jim Ahneman, W9ZZI Burt Spangler, W9BAR Bob Fallis, W9NW Carl Searing, W9GDW Duane Books. And, three of them are members for 50 years!! A club with very deep roots.

From our Section Traffic Manager, Denny, K9LGU: FAQ # 52 How is a cat like a comma? Okay, maybe that's not a

frequently asked question - but the answer brings to mind an important concept in sending traffic. The answer? Old story. A cat has claws at the end of its paws, but a comma's a pause at the end of a clause.

Pauses are critical in sending traffic - in any mode. There are pauses between words, pauses between parts of the preamble, pauses after each line of an address. Pauses may also be used to listen for interruptions while sending a message. Use of break-in keying on CW (QSK) or VOX on phone makes it easy for the receiving station to ask for clarification.

When a receiving op hears pauses, he or she can anticipate what's coming next. On FM repeaters, where VOX would be difficult, the breaks before and after the text are considered mandatory. Taking a short listening break after each five words of the text can make things flow more smoothly, too.

Remember, if you speak only as fast as you can write (try it), the copying station can keep up. Pauses are more than refreshing. They really help in traffic handling. 73 - K9LGU/ STM-WI

Weather spotter classes are starting soon. Classes are open to anyone wishing to learn more about severe weather and to become a trained weather spotter volunteer.

A listing of these classes is given on the Wisconsin site:

<https://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=WI>

73, Don, W9IXG

ARRL Wisconsin Section Section Manager: Donald E. Michalski, W9IXG [w9ixg@arrl.org](mailto:w9ixg@arrl.org)

(Continued on page 6)

Check us out on the web at  
[Http://www.bssts.org](http://www.bssts.org)

WISCONSIN SECTION STATION ACTIVITY							
<i>(Continued from page 4)</i>							
N9NNN	0	0	22	0	22		
KB9ROB	0	12	6	3	21		
W9PVD	0	1	2	0	3		
P S H R SUMMARY							
JANUARY 2006							
CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
KB9KEG40	40	20	270	0	10	380	
KG9B	30	40	20	95	0	0	185
K9LGU	40	40	30	20	0	0	130
K9FHI	40	40	30	5	0	10	125
AG9G	40	40	20	20	0	0	120
W9BHL	40	40	30	0	0	0	110
WD9FLJ	40	6	0	0	45	0	81
WZ9I	40	40	0	0	0	0	80
W9RSX	40	24	10	0	0	0	74
K9JPS	30	30	10	0	0	0	70
FEBRUARY 2006							
CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
KG9B	28	40	20	120	0	0	208
AG9G	40	40	20	85	0	0	185
K9LGU	40	40	30	20	0	0	130
K9FHI	40	40	30	5	5	10	130
W9BHL	40	40	30	0	0	0	110
W9RTP	40	40	10	0	0	0	90
WD9FLJ	40	30	10	0	0	0	80
W9RSX	40	26	10	0	0	0	76
K9JPS	28	28	10	0	0	0	66

WISCONSIN SECTION MANAGER REPORT	
<i>(Continued from page 5)</i>	
<b>FEBRUARY 2006</b>	
WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG. BWN 3985 0500-0715 W9IXG. BEN 3985 1200 KE9VU. WSBN 3985 1715-1800 K9FHI. WNN 3723 1800 KB9ROB. WSSN 3645 1830 N9JIY. WIN-E 3662 1900 WB9ICH. WIN-L 3662 2200 W9UW. (All times are Central time)	Club affiliation with ARRL-- The ARRL is about to launch "Hello" -our biggest PR campaign ever. If you are not familiar with this, you can read about it in the April issue of QST or at: <a href="http://www.arrl.org/pio/contact/2006/02/">http://www.arrl.org/pio/contact/2006/02/</a>
We are all deeply saddened with the passing of John Hennessee, N1KB, 42. John was a regulatory information specialist in ARRL Field and Educational Services and has provided many Wisconsin amateurs with answers to tough regulation questions. He will be missed.	As part of this campaign, a website will be directing people interested in learning how to become a ham to clubs that want to welcome them and do some mentoring to help them get started. If your club wants to be included on this website list and is willing to give both a warm welcome and help brand new people, please check and be SURE that your club listing on the ARRL database is up to date. Club officers should regularly update your club records with the ARRL by going to the

Check us out on the web at  
<http://www.bsss.org>

Big Club List at:  
<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/biglist.html>

Locate your Club in Wisconsin. Once you have the club records on your screen, carefully check all the information shown. If there is a need for a change, scroll to the bottom of your club page and follow the instructions beginning with "Submit updated data for this club record".

The expiration date for your Special Service Club is, also, given. To renew as a SSC, go to this site:  
<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/forms/fsd7/renewal.html>

This is done every two years. More info on SSC is found at this site:  
<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/forms/fsd7/> We encourage all clubs who qualify for SSC status to register!

If your club is considering becoming affiliated with the ARRL, we invite you to review the benefits of becoming affiliated with the ARRL by going to this site: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/benefits.html> When you are ready to apply, just go to this site for the kit: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/club-kit/club-kit.pdf> Many new Amateurs check the ARRL club site looking for a club to join. Be sure you provide accurate information on your club services!

The 2006 Great Midwest Rely Race will again be looking for hams to provide communication support. Last year, over 130 amateurs were needed for this two day team foot race between Madison to Milwaukee to Chicago. It was a big success and Jerry Martin, KC9BDA, communication coordinator, will be looking for volunteers for this race. Jerry says-- "I view this as a wonderful two state, two day disaster

exercise. It doesn't get any better than that! What makes it even more special is that we have the freedom to also try new technology under real field conditions, and evaluate if this is something we choose to add to our county "comm toolbox". Last year we developed the voice nets, and this year we would like to get some of the digital modes, such as, conventional packet and/or Winlink 2000." If you are interested in participating, please email Jerry at:  
[jerry9876@earthlink.net](mailto:jerry9876@earthlink.net)

The 2005 runners were impressed and extremely grateful for the support the amateurs provided during this 30 hour event. You won't get tired of the pats on the back!

Don't forget about these important upcoming events in Wisconsin:  
March 12 is the Wisconsin QSO party from noon to 7 pm!  
<http://www.warac.org/wqp/wqp.htm>  
March 18 is the ECARC is having the auction.  
<http://www.ecarc.org/auction.htm>  
March 19 the Tri-County ARC will be hosting their hamfest.  
March 31, April 1, is the AES Superfest!  
Details on the hamfests are provided on the Wisconsin Section site:  
<https://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=WI>  
I will be at these events and look forward to having an eyeball QSO with you!

73, Don, W9IXG

ARRL Wisconsin Section  
Section Manager: Donald E. Michalski, W9IXG  
[w9ixg@arrl.org](mailto:w9ixg@arrl.org)

ARRL Central Division Director

*(Continued from page 1)*  
the FCC. But the vast majority apparently does nothing... and eventually this will degrade the Amateur Radio Service as we know it.

Your ARRL leadership and paid staff cannot be effective advocates for amateur radio unless the members actively support their efforts on your behalf. In view of what is at stake in the BPL struggle, I do not understand members' poor response to requests that they write letters to their elected representatives. 39 cents postage and 20 to 30 minutes composing, or editing a sample, letter is a very small investment in your ability to continue having an effective Amateur Radio Service.

I know that many of you are reluctant to get involved in politics in any form or manner. This is exactly what those who want to displace us from our precious radio spectrum are depending on. We must increase our political presence with the U.S. Congress and our state legislatures. The good old boy network is evaporating and political pressure is our key to success. We can overcome the monied interests with our sheer numbers, IF WE PARTICIPATE IN THE LEGISLATIVE POLITICAL PROCESS.

You don't have to run for office. You don't have to write a lot checks. But you

*(Continued on page 9)*



# THE TEST POINT

(Continued from page 3)

June 24, 2006	Tomahawk, WI
July 01, 2006	St. Paul, MN
July 08, 2006	Blaine, MN
July 08, 2006	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
July 13, 2006	Apple Valley, MN
July 15, 2006	Rockford, IL
July 15, 2006	Cottage Grove, MN
July 18, 2006	Eden Prairie, MN
July 20, 2006	Iron River, MI
July 22, 2006	Bloomington, MN
July 29, 2006	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
July 29, 2006	Tomahawk, WI
August 05, 2006.	St. Paul, MN
August 10, 2006	Apple Valley, MN
August 12, 2006	Blaine, MN
August 12, 2006	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
August 15, 2006	Eden Prairie, MN
August 17, 2006	Iron River, MI
August 19, 2006	Rockford, IL
August 19, 2006	Cottage Grove, MN
August 26, 2006	loomington, MN
August 26, 2006	Tomahawk, WI
September 02, 2006	Raine, WI
September 02, 2006	St. Paul, MN
September 09, 2006	Blaine, MN
September 09, 2006	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
September 12, 2006	Eden Prairie, MN
September 14, 2006	Apple Valley, MN
September 16, 2006	Rockford, IL
September 16, 2006	Cottage Grove, MN
September 21, 2006	Iron River, MI
September 23, 2006	Bloomington, MN
September 30, 2006	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
September 30, 2006	Tomahawk, WI

Monthly, 1st Sat. (except Jan., Jul., & Aug.)	Racine, WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	St. Paul, MN
Monthly, 2nd Thu.	Apple Valley, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Blaine, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
Monthly, 3rd Tue.	Eden Prairie, MN
Monthly, 3rd Thu.	Iron River, MI
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Rockford, IL
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Cottage Grove, MN
Monthly, 4th Sat.	Bloomington, MN
Monthly, Last Sat. (Except Mar., Jun., Aug., & Dec.)	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
Monthly, Last Sat.	Tomahawk, WI (January thru October only)

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS: Be sure to check with sponsors before going to an examination session. There may be changes and/or errors in the dates or information given. Some examinations require filing an FCC or NCVEC Form 605 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. Some VE teams permit walkins. Check with the sponsor.

Many hamfests and swapfests offer examinations. A Hamfest entrance fee should not be charged if you come only to attend the examination. To register in advance, you must get a copy of the current FCC Form 605, and fill it out completely and correctly. Get your form from the FCC as instructed below, or from the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please send an SASE if you request a form from the League. FCC Field Offices seldom stock forms. You can also get a form from

http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html  
or  
ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form605.

A form by FAX is available at (202)

418-0177 (request Form 000605). The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders at (800) 418-3676. Form 605 has a main form, plus a Schedule D with two parts (for Vanity and Physician's Certifications). Forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

See QST, W1AW bulletins, or The ARRL Letter regarding any annual exam fee changes. ARRL/VEC no longer gives a free code test or Element 2. Test fees: The ARRL/VEC has set its 2005 test fee at \$14.00. FCC requires applicants to show their original amateur license or CSCE to the VE team. You must also have a good copy of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 605 and most VE teams need a copy for their records. One good CSCE copy is sufficient. You are also be required to have a photo ID, or two other forms of ID. Contact the VE team for details.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only. Proof must be either in the form of a pre-3/21/87 license document or a "Letter of Verification of Technician License Held Prior to 1987" as requested in writing from the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml

By checking this page, you can find registered VE sessions anywhere in the US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC. It is a master database. Thanks to Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, ARRL/

Adams, WI  
Adams City Fire Dept., 101 N. Main St., Highway 13, Adams, WI. Contact Edward J. Wagner (608) 584-4858. ab9fn@arrl.net

Appleton, WI  
Fox Cities ARC (ARRL/VEC) All regular test sessions are held at the American Red Cross Building, 1302 East Wisconsin Ave. in Appleton. Testing starting at 8 a.m. No walk-ins after 9 a.m. For information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Wil-lows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. Email: w9mdp@arrl.net.

Eau Claire, WI  
Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club. Grace Lutheran Church, 202 W., Grand Ave. Enter off 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue entrance, Eau Claire, WI  
Technician, General and Extra Class exams. Walkins welcome. Examination ses-sion coordinator: Jonathan E., Case, (715) 834-1540. www.ecarc.org. w9eau@ecarc.org.

Fond du Lac, WI  
Fond du Lac ARC (ARRL/VEC). Com-munity United Methodist Church, 701 Minne-sota Ave., North Fond du Lac. 9:00 a.m. Walk-ins allowed. Contact: Douglas J. S c h u l t z , 9 2 0 - 9 2 2 - 3 0 8 8 , schultz74@charter.net.

Houghton MI: Sponsor: HARC/CCRAA. Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: George R Thurner home phone, (906)337-2542, cell phone (906) 369-2542 Email: W8FWG@ARRL.NET VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: Michigan Tech University-US

Hwy 41. Wadsworth Residence Hall, East End of Campus, G04w (Downstairs/Turn Left), Houghton, MI 49931

Iron Mountain, MI 49801: Sponsor: W5YI VEC. Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-Ins Al-lowed). Contact: Mark J Lewis, (906)337-2542 . VEC: W5YI VEC. Location: Dickinson County Library, 401 South Iron Mountain St., Arrival Time: 9:00 AM. Conference Room, Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Iron River, MI. Sponsor: Iron Range ARA (IRARC). Time: 6:30 PM (No walk-ins). Contact: Dan R Waters, (906)265-4240. Email: dmwaters@ironriver.tv VEC: W5YI VEC. Location: Iron River Lutheran Church, Across From Mcdonald's. Pre-Registration Required. If no applicants - No testing. Iron River, MI 49935

Madison, WI  
The Madison Wisconsin, Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club sponsored VE testing has moved to the new University of Wisconsin Space Place, 2300 South Park Street, lower level, Madison, WI in the Villager shopping center complex. Exams are given the first Saturday of the month. Holidays included. Doors open at 8:00 AM, and we hope to have all exams completed and graded by 10:00 AM.

Please bring a picture ID, your original license, a copy of your license, and the origi-nal and a copy of any relevant CSCes, and a check for \$12.00 made out to the ARRL/VEC. No appointments are necessary to take exams. Exams start promptly at 8 a.m. Questions may be directed to Tim Czerwonka, WO9U, at 608-239-3696 (home phone) or sent to wo9u@arrl.net.

Marshfield, WI  
Sponsored by the Marshfield Area ARS. Saint Joseph's Hospital, 611 Saint Joseph Ave., Room 124, Hospice South Bldg., Marshfield, WI 54449. Contact Lee A. Olson, (715) 389-8888.

Mauston, WI (ARRL/VEC)  
Sponsored by the Juneau County ARC. 9:30 a.m. (Walk-ins allowed). Mauston City Hall, 303 Mansion St., Community Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Mauston, WI. Contact Edward J. Wag-ner, (608) 584-4858. ab9fn@arrl.net

Menominee, MI  
Marinette-Menominee Amateur Radio Club. Location: The cafeteria of Bay Area Med Center, US-41 in Menominee. Building located next to KFC just off the Interstate Bridge. All classes given. Advance notice preferred, but not required. Test fee is \$10 with two pieces of identification required. Contact Jeff Rymer, N9PQU at jrymer@ez-net.com or Ed Engleman, KG8CX, at dxer@cybrzn.com. We will monitor the 147.000 (107.2 pl) repeater in event further directions or info is needed.

Milwaukee, WI  
Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club (MRAC VEC) Last Saturday, except in March, June, August, and December. In addition, we test at the West Allis RAC Swapfest in January and at Superfest in April. 9:30 a.m. to noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Road (the door you enter is actually numbered 5730), Milwaukee. For

additional information, call (262) 797-MRAC. Bring along your original license, CSCE (if any), and one (1) good quality photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$8.00 for the exam fee. Walkins are welcome. To regis-ter in advance, use a post card. Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number, and send the card to MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Ama-teurs Club, P.O. Box 070695, Milwaukee, WI 53207. Contact: John G. Kraak, 262-797-6722.

Negaunee, MI. Sponsor: HIAWATHA ARC. Time: 8:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Richard E Schwenke, (906)249-3837, Email: n8gba@chartermi.net VEC: ARRL/VEC. Location: Health Dept Bldg (Downstairs), 184 US 41 E, Entrance @ Back of building. Negaunee, MI 49866

Onalaska, WI  
Sponsor: Riverland ARC, Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed), Contact: Roger C. Reader, (608)783-0723. Email: read-ers@centurytel.net. VEC: ARRL/VEC. Loca-tion: Onalaska Public Library. 741 Oak Ave S. Onalaska, WI 54650

Oshkosh, WI (Omro)  
Oshkosh VE Team Amateur Radio ex-ams monthly on the second Saturday. Regis-tration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon. Omro Commu-nity Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walkins welcomed. Bring a good quality pho-tocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.65. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail: lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jeffer-son Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

Ozaukee, WI  
Sponsor: Ozaukee Radio Club. Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed), Contact: John G. Kraak. (414)332-6722. Email: jkraak@wi.rr.com. VEC: Milwaukee VEC. Location: Circle B Recreation Center, 6261 State Road 60, Cedarburg, WI 53012

Portage, WI  
Columbia County Law Enforcement Center, 711 E. Cook St., Highway 33, Port-age, WI. Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed), Contact: Edward J. Wagner, (608)584-4858 Talk in on 146.52.  
Email: ab9fn@arrl.net. VEC: ARRL/VEC. Location: Columbia County Law En-forcement Center, 711 E Cook St, Highway 33, Portage, WI 53901 Talk-in Frequency 146.520 MHz.

Racine, WI  
ARRL VEC Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August. Monthly exams are given 9 to 11 a.m. at the Faith United Methodist Church, 1013 Harmony Drive, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Talk in on 147.87/.27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Paul B. Smedegaard, N9RGW, 929 Lathrop Ave., Racine, WI 53405-2339. Telephone: (262) 637 4750. or e-mail to smedegaa@wi.net

(Continued on page 9)



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**A PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, during times of national, state and local emergencies, amateur radio operators continue to provide communication resources which are provided at no cost to the Wisconsin taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, there continues to be a need for amateur radio operators to provide emergency communication capabilities as a backup resource during state and national emergencies; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators participate in the Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) program as volunteers providing their communications expertise; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio clubs throughout the State of Wisconsin, provide radio courses of instruction, encourage and assist with grade school and high school programs about amateur radio, and in the process, enhance student interest in science, geography and physics, thus provide the opportunity to become a licensed amateur radio operator; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators, participating in SKYWARN provide trained and radio equipped severe weather spotters to assist the National Weather Service and the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio organizations such as the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) and the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) are organized and trained to provide emergency communication support; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio organizations such as Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) provide communication support for community and public service events to help ensure the safety of all attendees, participants and observers; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators test their capability to operate “in the field” using alternate power sources during the June annual Field Day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jim Doyle, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim

**June 24 and 25, 2006**


**AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR RECOGNITION DAYS**

in the State of Wisconsin, and I commend this observance to all citizens.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this fourteenth day of March in the year two thousand six.

  
JIM DOYLE

By the Governor:  
  
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State



ARRL Wisconsin Section Manager, Don Michalski, W9IXG with Wisconsin Governor Doyle’s proclamation declaring June 25-26, 2006 as Amateur Radio Operator Recognition Days.

-Photo by K9EN at Jefferson Swapfest.

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Please do NOT send cash.



ARRL Central Division Director

(Continued from page 6)

do have to let your appointed and elected representatives know your desires on issues that affect you.

Please review the information I published in my 2006-03 division newsletter and then get your House Resolution 230 letters to your representatives in the mail with copies to our lobbying firm in Washington, DC and an email message to me so I will know how many are willing and able to help defend our Amateur Radio Service.

I am spending about 25 to 30 hours a week on your behalf. Is it too much to ask you to help defend ham radio?

ARRL Central Division  
Director: George Isely, W9GIG  
w9gig@arrl.org

Follow up from ARRL Central Division Director George Isely, W9GIG

House Resolution  
230 Letter Report #2

24 MAR 2006

If you are confused by the numbering in the subject of this message it's because I have counted my first follow-up (disappointment) message as Report #1.

First of all, I apologize to the three persons who complained about the tone of

my first House Resolution follow-up message, and to those who did not send me complaints. It was not my purpose to offend, but to make sure everyone understands the importance of this letter-writing campaign. However, that message did greatly increase the the number of letters that have been sent.

As of right now, the total of confirmations I have received has increased from my earlier reported total of 36 to 166 letters sent to U.S. Representatives. This is a great improvement! I thank all who have answered my call and sent a letter urging their U.S. Representative to support House Resolution 230.

For the great majority who have not done so, please send a letter using the information and web site links I have provided in my 2006-03 Central Division Newsletter at:

<http://www.central.arrl.org/newsletters.html>

Please send your letters as soon as you can. For those of you who have FAX capability, I believe all of the U.S. Representatives and Senators have FAX phone numbers. This is a good alternative to the U.S. Postal Service. I sent my letter both ways with a reference in my FAX that a paper letter was also in the mail.

ARRL Central Division  
Director: George Isely, W9GIG  
w9gig@arrl.org

THE TEST POINT

(Continued from page 7)

Rockford, IL  
Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC) Third Saturday of every month. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walkins welcome. Held at St. Anthony Hospital, 5660 E State St., Rockford, IL. Contact: Randy Scott, W9HL, W9HL@ARRL.NET (815-877-4328).

Sheboygan, WI  
Sheboygan County ARC (ARRL/VEC). Exams are held in the Red Cross Building, 2032 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan, WI. The test areas are handicap accessible with signage posted to direct candidates to the proper area of the building. Walk-ins are accepted, however notification ahead of time of your intention to appear would be appreciated. Contact: Art Pahr K9XJ, 920-876-2370. N8029 Willow Road [k9xj@arrl.net](mailto:k9xj@arrl.net) Plymouth, WI 53073-2929

Tomahawk, WI

Tomahawk ARRL VE Team (ARRL/VEC). Last Saturday of every month, January thru October. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testing starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633, [dcollins@newnorth.net](mailto:dcollins@newnorth.net).

St. Paul, MN  
Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC) First Saturday of the month, 8:30 a.m. Test Site: St. Paul Technical College, 235 Marshall Ave., St Paul, MN. Ed Van Cleave, W0VC, (612) 636-0108. [www.qsl.net/sprc/index.html](http://www.qsl.net/sprc/index.html).

Washington Island, WI  
Contact: John W. Van Sandt, (217) 826-8821. [n9yrx@hotmail.com](mailto:n9yrx@hotmail.com)

Wausau, WI.  
Sponsor: WVRA. Time: 2:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Gerald L. Graebel, (715) 842-9542 Email: [w9glg@arrl.net](mailto:w9glg@arrl.net). VEC: [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC). Location: American Legion Golf Course, 1001 Golf Club Rd, Wausau, WI 54403

The 2006 Madison Hamfest and Computer Fair



April 22, 2006

8:00 AM until 1:00 PM

(Dealer set-up Friday night and Saturday morning)

Talk-in frequency: 147.15 Mhz pl 123.0

Featured vendors of new and used equipment for Amateur Radio, Electronics and Computer enthusiasts, as well as computer software in the Mandt Community Center's spacious 26,000 sq. ft. main hall!

Same great location as in 2004 and 2005!  
Please note the Swapfest is on a Saturday this year!

Mandt Community Center

400 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, Wisconsin

The Mandt Community Center is located in the Stoughton Junior Fair Grounds on the south side of Stoughton

Public Admission - Doors open at 8:00 AM

Vendor Information

The Madison Swapfest and Computer Fair offers a variety of commercial and flea market space. Vendor space goes on sale in November and sells out several weeks before the event so be sure to reserve your space early this year.

Vendor space is available on a "first come, first served" basis. Complete vendor information can be found by sending Mr. Paul Toussaint, N9VWH an e-mail or by calling 608.245.8890. Be sure to check out the links below.

Additional questions?

Inquiries can be directed to: Mr. Paul R. Toussaint, N9VWH  
MARA President at: [w9hsy@execpc.com](mailto:w9hsy@execpc.com)

The MARA 24-hour telephone voicemail number is 608.245.8890

Ticket Prices

Swapfest advanced sale general admission tickets are \$4.00 per person or \$5.00 the day of the show.

Vendor table fees are \$15.00 per 8 ft. table, if ordered before April 3, 2006; \$18.00 after that. Tables are \$25.00 the day of Swapfest, if available.

If you are interested in purchasing tickets or table space, contact Paul Toussaint by e-mail or by phone at 608.245.8890.

One of our readers comments about BSSS:

Dear Ken:

Always a superb job with Badger State Smoke Signals. I used to pick up a copy when I lived in near Burlington at Radio Recyclers in Milwaukee. Since moving to Minocqua BSSS has remained out of touch for me until this morning when I discovered your website. Very nice!

Anyway, I'll be a frequent visitor to the website for sure and am going to return now to find out if you are still printing the paper for subscribers.

Request: By any chance would you have available the obituary on an old friend of mine, Fred Krause W9VLK? I missed it in 1999 and if you have it I would be grateful if you could email it to me.

Thanks again.  
73 & ZUT Vern W9STB

p.s. We have sent him a copy of the obituary.

Another issue of BSSS is about done and ready to go to the printer.

We list the club meeting, swapfest and exam sites in our publication. Some of these listing are have not changed for several years. It would be appreciated by us and our readers if you would check over the listings occasionally and let us know when there are changes needed.

We enjoyed meeting some of our readers at the Jefferson swapfest and hope to meet many of you at events in and around Wisconsin. We plan on being at the ARS Superfest in Milwaukee and the MARA swapfest in Stoughton. We will have tables at both of these and invite you to stop by and say hello.  
73 ken k9en

If you took all the students that fell asleep in class and laid them end to end, they'd be a lot more comfortable.  
-- "Graffiti in the Big Ten"



# THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

**Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association**  
**Joel Papke, N9BQM, Treasurer**  
**7968 Ubinger Road, Pittsville, WI 54466-9214**

**Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor—453 Cottage Grove Avenue—Green Bay, WI 54304—e-mail: kb9aln@tds.net**

There is no news received from WAPR for this issue. We hope to have more for you

**From The Wisconsin ARES/RACES Newsletter**

**Volume 08 Number 02 February 2006**

**ARES Leadership and Organizational Changes**

To concentrate on his responsibilities as Linked Repeater Coordinator, Rich Maier, KC9NW, has stepped aside as Marathon County EC. Rich has been instrumental in developing the central WI Skywarn program. We will keep Rich busy with his other responsibilities and I am sure he will continue to be active in Marathon County and Central WI.

Replacing Rich is Michael Martens, KB9VBR. Michael has been one of Rich's AECs and extremely involved with the ham radio community in Marathon County. Michael will bring new ideas to the group and consistent leadership. Please join me in welcoming Michael to his new position!

As most of you know, I travel a great deal for my "paid" job. In 2006, my international travel will increase significantly. As a result, it is increasingly difficult to keep in touch while I am gone. As a result, Skip Sharpe, W9REL and ASEC for Training, will become my operational backup while I am away. In this capacity, Skip will be more closely involved with all issues of WI ARES/RACES. Whenever I am traveling the senior leadership team knows where I am and how to contact me. If you activate while I am traveling, follow the chain of command and ensure your DEC is notified. He will notify Skip, who will deal with the activation and interface

with Don Michalski, W9IXG and ARRL Section Manger, and WEM, with Sam Rowe's, KG9NG and ASEC for WEM, help. Skip will notify me, but he will work the issue. Thanks to Skip for stepping up to the plate and helping me!

I am sorry to report Mike Podawiltz, KF9X, has stepped down as Wood County EC because of greater work demands. We thank Mike for his efforts and wish him the best. We are presently searching for Mike's replacement.

**Volume 08 Number 03 March 2006**

I am pleased to announce Benjamin Nikolai, KB9WDJ, has assumed the role of Wood County EC. Ben has an excellent emergency response background and comes to us as a trained incident commander in the fire and rescue fields. Ben will be forming his organization over the next couple of months and delegating authority when he is tied up on public safety assignments. We look forward to working with and learning from Ben!

EC changes continue with La Crosse County. Roger Reader, KA9BKK, has stepped aside and Mike Baker, KB9TWI, has assumed the EC role. You may recognize Mike's name from a past ARES/RACES Newsletter. He assisted Jackson County last fall with the installation of a new repeater. Mike is a radio technician and has been active in ham radio in several areas of the state. Welcome Mike!

Reprinted from the Wisconsin ARES/RACES Newsletter, Bill Niemuth, Editor."

**-SK- REPORTING:**

As the chairman of the CCRAA's Annual "U.P. Ham Directory" we find that many "Silent Keys" (SK's) are published each year, because they are unknown to us. Our information for the booklet comes from the FCC database, and if the FCC isn't notified by someone (a family member of the SK, a relative or a friend) they don't know about it, and the listing could possibly go on until the 10 year license is ended, and that could be a long time. I'm suggesting that each club form a committee that will get together with the family of a deceased "ham" and assist the families in getting the information to the FCC and the ARRL. A reasonable length of time after the SK passes should be allowed, and a personal visit to the family involved would be desired.

1. A family member should notify the FCC and should include either a death certificate or an obituary from the newspaper. Please assist the family by giving them the address of the FCC, (An addressed and stamped envelope to the FCC would be a kind gesture): Send it to:

FCC  
1270 Fairfield Rd  
Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245

2. If the SK also holds a Commercial license, the FCC should also be sent the ORIGINAL (or a copy) of that license, or the number imprinted on it.

3. The ARRL should also be notified. (Kathy Capodicasa, N1GZO, Silent Keys Administrator, N1GZO@arrl.org). (Again an addressed, stamped envelope to the ARRL would be appropriate.)

Note: Silent Key reports to the ARRL must confirm the death by one of the following means:

- a. A letter or note from a family member
- b. A copy of a newspaper obituary notice
- c. A copy of the death certificate
- d. A letter from the family lawyer or the executor
- e. Amateur's name, address and call sign
- f. Allow several months for the listing to appear in the SK column in QST magazine.

4. If your club isn't already doing this, it would be a good time to start such a program.

73, and thank you for taking the time to read this short article.

George R. Thurner, W8FWG  
Chairman, CCRAA's "U.P. Ham Directory."  
(906) 337-2542  
E-Mail: w8fwg@arrl.net



**SSB**  
**SELL SWAP BUY**  
**OUR WANT ADS GET RESULTS**

**WANTED:**  
ICOM IC-28H Transceiver Call or write:  
Dennis Royce, K9GIR (906) 289-4251  
E-Mail: [garoyce@up.net](mailto:garoyce@up.net) 673 W. North  
St. Eagle Harbor, MI 49950-9658





## Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

**WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)**  
**K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)**  
**Club net: Sundays 8:00 p.m. on 147.315**  
**Robert Loomis, KB9VSQ, Secretary**  
**108 Scarlet Ct., Reedsburg, WI 53959**  
**YTARC Home Page: <http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/>**



Minutes of the February 7, 2006 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club.

Meeting opened at 7:30pm by Steve, N9UDO, President.

Minutes of the January meeting were read and discussed. Motion made by Tom, N9PQJ, to accept. Second was by Don, K9JYX. Accepted by voice vote.

Treasurer's report: \$4,072.00 in treasury. No outstanding bills.

### Old Business:

Circus City Swapfest fliers have been printed up, and are ready for all members to distribute. We received notice that the Sauk County Fair Board is going to raise the rent on the building we use again this year. Last year it cost us \$300.00, and they are raising it to \$400.00. A lively discussion resulted and it was sent to the executive committee to check into other options and report at the next meeting. Some of the choices are to rent one of the other buildings. Example, the Badger building for \$150.00, or the John Litcher Pavilion for \$150.00. However, there would be a charge for tables and chairs. Motion made by Don, K9JYX, to turn it over to Executive Committee. Second by Dave, KB9CSW. Motion passed by voice vote.

Topics for meeting night were discussed. Duane, N9DG, will be at our March meeting to give a demonstration on "Software Defined Radio". It promises to be a very interesting program and everyone is encouraged to attend. Other ideas were to have a Fox Hunt in May or June. Pete, WD9JIB, suggested a picnic for one of the summer meetings. This was enthusiastically received. If you have any ideas, please let us know about them.

Bill, N9KXX, mentioned he needs help with teaching classes in Sauk City. He has about 5 or 6 people interested in the classes. Contact him for info.

Discussion pertaining to having our own classes ensued. It was suggested that spring or fall are the best times for classes. It was suggested that we could have an open house meeting at the September meeting and then start classes after that.

### Upcoming events:

Circus Heritage Days - May 19, 20, 21  
Field Day - June 24, 25  
Sauk County Fair - July 10-16  
Hamfests: March 19 - Jefferson  
April 1 - AES Superfest  
April 22 - MARA Hamfest  
April 29 - Medford Hamfest  
July 8 - South Milwaukee  
August 12 - Circus City Swapfest, Baraboo

February Zilch will be on Feb. 26 Look for info from N9PQJ.

WI QSO Party March 12 noon to 7:00pm

### New Business:

By-Law changes: Steve, N9UDO, provided the group, copies of the changes we discussed at the last meeting. After a discussion, Don, K9JYX, made a motion to accept the new by-laws as revised. Bill, N9KXX, seconded it. Passed by voice vote. New club by-laws are now in affect.

Bill, N9NNN, mentioned that fundraisers should not be limited to our Swapfest. Other ideas were discussed, and tabled to the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Bill, N9KXX. Seconded by Duane, N9DG. Passed by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:04pm.

Buck Night winner was: Doug, KC9FRL. He was not present so he didn't actually win! The kitty is now up to \$3.00 for the next meeting.

Attending members:  
Rick Plouffe, N9ROY - Wisconsin Dells  
Juanita Plouffe, ROYS XYL - Wisconsin Dells  
Steve Schulze, N9UDO - Baraboo  
Bill Klinkner, N9KXX - Sauk City  
Tom Harrison, N9PQJ - Reedsburg  
Don Evenson, K9JYX - Baraboo  
Bill Timme, N9NNN - Portage  
Pete Sweeney, WD9JIB - Reedsburg  
Dave Spearing, KB9CSW - Portage  
Duane Grotophorst, N9DG - North Freedom

Respectfully submitted by Rick, N9ROY  
YTARC Secretary

## "HELLO" CAMPAIGN PROVIDES RALLYING POINT TO PROMOTE AMATEUR RADIO

(Continued from page 1)

"Hello" Web site is designed for non-hams to learn a little bit about Amateur Radio and to arouse more interest. The site points prospective Amateur Radio licensees to groups that have indicated they will provide a warm welcome to newcomers. The national "Hello" campaign can bring curious people into contact with ham radio groups, but it will be up to local radio amateurs to make them truly welcome, Pitts maintains.

"The key to creating a new ham operator is to develop a relationship with a current ham operator," says Pitts. Behind the effort is "an army of dedicated, truly motivated PIOs and others who want to see ham radio flourish."

A series of 30-second radio public service announcements (PSAs) <<http://www.arrl.org/pio/pr.html>> has been developed for the "Hello" campaign. "You can help by downloading the PSAs from the ARRL Web site onto a CD and taking it to your own local radio station," Pitts suggests.

A broadcast-quality video for the "Hello" campaign will be available in April.

Copies of the special four-page "Hello" brochure <<http://www.arrl.org/pio/hello/Hello-Campaign-Brochure.pdf>> are available from ARRL Headquarters for use during presentations to non-ham groups. (Full details on the "Hello" campaign plus a pull-out copy of the brochure are available in the April issue of QST.) The brochures are suitable for talks to

schools, clubs, displays and other venues promoting Amateur Radio to the public. There is a space on the back page to add local club info.

"For 100 years, the magic of the human voice over radio has brought imaginations to life. It opened a whole new era of human communication," the brochure declares, urging, "It's your world. Get on the radio and say 'Hello.'"

To obtain copies, e-mail the "Hello" campaign <[hello@arrl.org](mailto:hello@arrl.org)>. Donations are welcome (make checks out to "ARRL") to help cover return postage to ARRL, Public Relations, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

"Hello" logo bumper stickers will be on sale through the ARRL on-line catalog: <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=9731>>.

Buttons for the "Hello" campaign will be available at Dayton Hamvention and at other major Amateur Radio events. Banners for the "Hello" campaign will be flying at Dayton Hamvention and at the National Association of Broadcasters convention in April. After that, they will be made available for use at major events in 2006.

"ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, was correct in stating that the Main Street of today is not the same as the Main Street of yesteryear," Pitts says. "To reach out today, the very first requirement is that Amateur Radio operators be perceived as friendly and trustworthy. That's a true public relations goal and the primary focus of the campaign."



Some of the YTARC gang enjoying some eye-ball QSO's etc. at the Jefferson Wisconsin Swapfest.


-Photo by K9EN

# Check us out on the web at <Http://www.bssts.org>



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SWAPFESTS

<div><p>2004 WINNER Nicholas Luther, K9NL Oshkosh, WI.</p></div> <div><p>34th ANNUAL MIDWINTER <b>SWAPFEST</b> WAUKESHA EXPOSITION CENTER WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN <b>SATURDAY</b> <b>JANUARY 6, 2007</b></p><p><i>Both sponsored by:</i> <b>THE WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, INC.</b> <b>P. O. BOX 1072 • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53201</b></p></div>	<p><i>HAM IT UP EVERY SPRING!</i> <b>MADISON SWAPFEST</b> Mandt Community Center <i>APRIL 22, 2006</i> 400 Mandt Parkway Stoughton WI Doors open at 8 a.m. Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890 Swapfest Information Line. (608) 245-8890</p>	<p><b>SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB</b> <b>SWAPFEST 06</b> <b>JULY 8, 2006</b> (Held every July) <b>American Legion Park</b> <b>Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI</b> (414) 762-3235 Ask for Verne P.O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172 e-mail ryatex@aol.com</p>
	<p>The Chicago FM Club presents <b>RADIO EXPO 2006</b> August 26-27, 2006 Lake County Fairgrounds, Rts. 45 and 120 Grayslake, Illinois Free parking • Amateur Exams • Talkin 146.16/76 Info Voice mail and FAX: (708) 457-0966 http://www.chicagofmclub.org P.O. Box 56784, Harwood Heights, IL 60656-0724</p>	<p><b>TRI-COUNTY ARC PRESENTS</b> <b>HAMFEST 2007</b> <b>March, 2007</b> <b>YOUR SPRING FAVORITE !</b> www.cmdline.com/tcarc/ TCARC 213 Frederick St (920) 563-6381 Fort Atkinson, WI 53538 Evenings</p>
		<p>The Milwaukee Repeater Club presents <b>AMATEUR RADIO FEST 2006</b> <b>October , 2006</b>  Waukesha County Expo Center Forum Buildings For more information, see: http://www.mrc91.org e-mail mrc@mrc91.org or call (414) 526-7011</p>
<p><b>Ozaukee Radio Club</b> <b>27th ANNUAL RADIO AND</b> <b>COMPUTER SWAPFEST</b> <b>MAY 06, 2006</b> 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center Intersection of Highway 60 and County I Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno, 5119 W, Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222 Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club W55 N865 Cedar Ridge Drive • Cedarburg WI 53012</p>	<p><b>Circus City Swapfest</b> Sponsored by the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club <b>Saturday, August 12, 2006 • 7 am—Noon</b> <b>Sauk County Fairgrounds • Baraboo, WI</b></p> <div><p>Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area</p><p>\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables</p></div> <p>Steve Schulze, N9UDO • Bill Klinkner, N9KXX (606) 356-2313 • (608) 643-6908/643-6453 http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/hamfest.htm,</p>	<p><b>SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB</b> <b>AUCTION</b> <b>Amateur Radio, Computers &amp; Electronics</b> <b>Wed. OCT. 04, 2006, 6:00 p.m.</b> <b>American Legion Post 434</b> <b>Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI</b> (414) 762-3235 Ask for Verne P.O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172 e-mail: ryatex@aol.com</p>

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

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